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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1920.

Every wish
Is like a prayer—with God.
—Elizabeth Browning.

American Obligations to Europe.

Mr. Loucheur, formerly minister of munitions, in debate a few days ago in the French chamber of deputies accused America and England of responsibility for the present economic situation of the world through their failure to extend Treasury credits after the war to various nations for the purpose of rehabilitation.

Mr. Loucheur indeed is merely re-echoing the repeated demands of himself and the French officials made during the Peace Conference that the United States should continue the taxation of its people for the purpose of arranging commercial credits to merchants and individuals in France with which to reconstruct and build up their business.

In his haste to place the responsibility for the present distressing situation Mr. Loucheur omits entirely to mention that the storms upon the economic horizon which militate against rehabilitation were raised by French officials. Among the things which Mr. Loucheur overlooked are these:

First—The failure of the French people to agree to a fixed indemnity for Germany. This failure has kept the Germans from re-establishing their former productivity. It has kept Europe face to face with the imminent danger of chaos through the bankruptcy of Germany. It has so endangered all monetary investment as to prevent the more efficient process of doing business.

Second—The French insistence on the political isolation of Austria, which has created another cesspool of danger to the whole of Europe and has further blocked the flow of capital toward Europe.

Third—The backing given by the French to imperialism in Poland, which has diverted the energies of the Poles from rehabilitation and has created another menace to European peace.

Fourth—The constant effort of French diplomacy to erect among the states of Eastern Europe alliances which like all military alliances lead ultimately to war—a consideration which does not encourage the investment of capital.

Fifth—The support given by the French to military adventures against Soviet Russia which have resulted only in fixing more firmly on that country the lamentable travesty of government that oppresses it.

Sixth—The increase by France itself in the issue of paper money from some \$5,000,000,000 at the time of the armistice to nearly \$50,000,000,000 now, which makes any notion of supporting the relative value of the franc and the dollar a joke.

One could enumerate other elements in the situation which Mr. Loucheur has overlooked, but these may be sufficient to indicate why the American taxpayer is not inclined to give to Europe a blank check on the American Treasury.

As a matter of fact, when all is said and done, if the politicians will give them a chance, the processes of business will effect the rehabilitation of Europe; but if this chance is denied, all the treasures on earth will never accomplish this result.

Basis for Long-Term Credits.

The war has brought to us a great new phenomenon in our international economic life and that is that not for a long time to come and perhaps never again can we establish our foreign trade upon a balance intake of commodities assisted by minor factors of remittance and service.

If we would give full time of the employment of our farmers, our laborers and our business men we must be prepared to invest some part of the value of these surplus products abroad.

Furthermore, the war has brought to us a transformation in that we need to no longer export commodities in payment of interest or principal from capital that we borrowed in our youth. On the other hand we have to receive vast quantities of imports in payment of interest and capital which we have already invested in Europe—Herbert Hoover in address to the Foreign Trade Corporation.

How true this is every business man should once realize. Yet all too many of them still endorse a popular demand that credit to European countries shall only be for materials and goods bought here.

That was well enough during the war. But it is impossible now when our balance of trade has reached enormous proportions, and Europe has nothing with which to pay this balance except with her printing presses.

It is essential now, as Mr. Hoover says, that the United States should turn to investment as the basis for credits. This is exactly what Europe did to this country in our earlier years when our trade balance was adverse and up to the time of the war.

It was these investments which gave Great Britain, Belgium, France and Germany their basis for credits and with which they largely paid for their purchases here from 1914 to 1917. Hundreds of millions of dollars in stocks, bonds and all forms of securities were sent back here for goods and materials.

They represented the investments made in this country by these people. Now the vast sums paid in dollars each year as interest and dividends and profits to those countries is kept at home, and the situation is reversed. This is the creditor nation.

Europe needs now exactly what we needed then and which they provided. This is capital, invested capital to balance goods bought and industry.

established. This is the only possible basis for the long-term credits essential to revival of European industry and the purchase of our raw and semiraw materials and goods.

This country must reinvest then the hundreds of millions those countries had invested here and which were returned in payments for goods during the war. Government credit, as Mr. Hoover pointed out, cannot have this basis. The government can extend credit, but it cannot make investment.

It can only take bonds of cash. Only such combined private capital as the proposed Foreign Trade Corporation, can invest and can do this through the ability to properly judge and estimate values. Europe simply cannot pay in any other way. It cannot buy in any other way, and the United States remembering the days of its need and financial insufficiency, should now pay that moral obligation.

After a ship has been run on tacks for a day or so, she just naturally limps into port.

Liaison Agencies.

Mr. Harding has confirmed his campaign pledge to make the Vice President a member of his Cabinet. He and Mr. Coolidge have reached a working agreement as to this and a mutual understanding of the details.

It will be a marked innovation and a most desirable. It will give the personal contact of the President and Senate which is not provided by the Constitution. The lack of it has often led to misunderstanding and even hostility.

The President cannot go to the Senate. He can meet Senators individually or in groups as committees. But he has no direct means of contact with them as a body, and no adequate means of making himself understood or to smooth antagonisms.

This has been one of the weaknesses of our form of irresponsible, responsible government. In other countries the Chief Executive is either innocuous, or reaches the legislative branch directly through a responsible ministry.

The Vice President as a member of the Cabinet will not wholly fill the breach, but will help. Somewhat of the same liaison will be formed between the President and the House through the budget law's permanent organization and the Committee on Appropriations.

These two agencies will do much to change the present isolation of the President, to break the barriers between him and Congress and so add to harmony of action and good understanding as to facilitate legislation.

Prohibition has no appreciable effect on the price of cloves and peppermint.

Inaugural Preliminaries.

Washington has good reason for satisfaction in the first steps taken for the management of the social and public features of the inauguration. This is the nation's great quadrennial function and this city is the stage upon which it is given.

Washington's immediate interest is that it may be so managed as to bring glory and satisfaction. That it may pass with dignity and impressiveness. That as a spectacle it may measure to our national pride and consequence.

The tens of thousands who come from all the States must be cared for. They must be housed and have places to sleep. They must be adequately fed and not profiteered. They must go away feeling that the Capital of their country has recognized its obligations to them and fulfilled them.

The Senate and House committees assure that the official routine, customs, proprieties and formalities will be exactly and fully observed. As a public function it will be in charge of those familiar with every detail.

Those features which come under the city's care and responsibility will be equally well administered. Mr. McLean, prominent in the business and social life of Washington, is the committee's executive, while associated with him are those to whom inaugurations are a well-known story.

It is of much importance locally that there should be the best of management, and it is, therefore, gratifying that this most stupendous of national functions is in such competent hands.

Lenient Judges.

No American will willingly believe that the Marines in Hayti deliberately and indiscriminately killed 2,500 or any other number of the natives. The Marines have a tradition of honor, valor and pride, not of butchery or murder.

Americans will also remember the tales of outrage and cruelty that came from the Philippines following their occupation by the army with military control. They will recall the like scandals following the capture and occupation of Vera Cruz.

It is not a parlor job nor a kid glove affair to manage Moros, Igorotes or Haytian bandits. It cannot be done with sweetness and light. Until after these people understand authority and appreciate control there is little room for kindness and improved conditions.

But the Marines should not rest upon a mere statement of the court of inquiry giving them a clean bill. The charge was made by a general officer of the army. It was not made by a civilian, nor by a Haytian.

It will not be convincing to have charge met by statement, let alone by an attack upon the officer who made the charge, and was in position to know the facts. The Marines should make public all the testimony, just what was done and why.

They are not before harsh judges. They can depend on the sympathetic attitude of the American people. They can afford to trust to that judgment, they can afford any appearance of concealing evidence.

Mr. Wilson a Washingtonian.

Washington is very much gratified that President Wilson has decided to make this his permanent home. It would seem to be logical that this city should be the abiding place for the country's former Presidents.

But strangely enough former Presidents have at the end of their official terms gone to their former home cities or States, or to some other location than Washington. Possibly this having been Mrs. Wilson's home city was the determining factor with the President.

Here, also, he will have easily accessible the records, documents, books and manuscripts which he may wish in his future literary work. It is of course, inconceivable that he will not continue as writer and historian.

Whatever his reasons and whatever his future activities, Washington will appreciate numbering him among its residents. He will always be a commanding figure in this country and will contribute much of dignity and distinction to the country's Capital.

Views Of Visitors in Washington

City's Growth Tell What the Nation is Thinking

Those who deplore the looseness of the English spoken in the average modern musical comedy may take heart from the reply of Dr. Manuel Zuniga Idiaquez, of Honduras, poet, musician and writer, as well as physician, who was here as a delegate from his country to the All-American Congress on Venereal Disease. When asked as to what impressed him most at the performance of "Aphrodite" he witnessed the other night, he said: "The music was excellent, the costumes were entrancing, the scenery was gorgeous; but what really fascinated me was the way the players spoke English."

It is gratifying to hear a foreigner, little acquainted with our tongue, pay such tribute to the English of a type of the drama upon which our highbrows frown.

Despite the frequent assertion that the English language is unmusical and that the Latin tongues are softer and more melodious, Dr. Idiaquez declared that our poets harm him and that he enjoys hearing American songs. Dr. Idiaquez is not only one of the best-known physicians in Honduras, but is a violinist of rare talent. He is the author of several volumes of poetry and has also written several textbooks on mathematics.

CHARMED BY CAPITAL SIGHTS.

The sights and life of the Capital so charmed the versatile doctor that yesterday, when seen at the Washington just before leaving for New York to return to his own country, he declared that he left the United States with great reluctance.

"I think your St. Marks Cafe is like a little patch of Central America set down in the midst of your North American winter," he declared. "I never tired of sitting in that wonderfully decorated dining-room, where I could easily imagine myself back in my own country looking up and out on the tropical evening sky."

"I wish only that more of my people could visit the United States and meet real Americans," he continued. "There is so much room for better understanding between the citizens of the United States and those of Honduras."

"We Latin-Americans too often judge all the United States by the corner of a side street. A high-class cabby who has come to Honduras and other Central American countries with the sole aim of exploiting the people and their resources. On the other hand, it has been most unfortunate that far too many of our people have come to this country have come solely in the interest of securing privileges to which they have not been entitled. So many of our people have been the victims of a publicist's propaganda."

The women of Honduras, although at the present time taking little interest in public affairs, are experiencing a quickening influence in this direction, Dr. Idiaquez said, and are anxious to learn more of the ideas of the American feminist.

SOCIETY FORMED TO COMBAT EVIL.

"Poverty and ignorance are the greatest calamities of our people and the sources of all our evils," said the doctor. "For this reason, and in order to diminish the effects of these evils, the Beneficencia Hondureña has been founded under the auspices, and by the initiative of the First Lady of the Land, Senora Anita de Lopez Gutierrez. This society was founded on three main principles: to help the poor, to educate the ignorant, and to improve the moral and physical conditions of the people of Honduras."

The women of Honduras are looking toward the North American sisters for help and inspiration, Dr. Idiaquez declared, and will welcome all contributions of literature on feminism and suffrage.

Honduras is making rapid strides toward progress, Dr. Idiaquez pointed out, that the only profession now filled by the women of Honduras is that of teaching. Women are employed as saleswomen, stenographers and telephone operators, but nothing has been done to encourage women to study and practice law and medicine.

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OF COURSE NOT! WHOEVER HEARD OF SUCH A THING!

By J. N. Darling.



New York Scenes on a Frosty Morning The Tragedian Consumes a Doughnut

By RAYMOND G. CARROLL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—In Fifth avenue, 2 a. m., in front of the Waldorf.

A lone cabby slaps his arms about him in the frosty glitter of electricity. Silence, unbroken save by the sibilant of pneumatic on asphalt. A belated auto bigger than a scow—drawn curtains. A ghost car. The majesty of a sleeping city. Even the flashing lights of the signal towers are still.

A wild taxi careens around the corner from a side street. A high-powered car follows—men on the running board. A fusillade of revolver shots. Another Mrs. Newrich has been robbed of a set of jewels.

The big car is gaining. Both disappear around the Cathedral corner. A beggar pauses to stare, then shrugs and resumes his pace. The echoes die away. The cabby, slowly warmed himself, drives slowly away—down town. Silence.

On Broadway. A winter morning along the Roaring Forties. A hunchback on an ash can in area—the sunny side. A load of kindling going in next door to a great hotel—a basket at a time. A shabby person with long hair and a walking stick, smiling in a subway kiosk. A haughty manœuvre submerged from knee to ears in Russian sable. Trim ankles in silk lace hose. Over all a Parisian toque.

Further on the originator of the "slimpy" talking to a youth in striped silk collar and flat derby hat. He consumes most of a cigarette at a gulp, and exhales the smoke regretfully. A \$1,000 thrill! He's the pianist in her new "act."

A bevy of belted blouses, tan, gray and mauve—an overcoat revues. An elderly character-man with half-trunked silver in "the business." Eleven o'clock and he has not breakfasted. A coffee house invites. Will he join us for an early lunch? He sniffs the air.

Hot doughnuts! Will he? Of a surety he will! Smoking Java and white spats. Waiter, another pot of coffee and extra doughnuts fresh from the kettle. The caress of a real old-brow—Turkish.

THE OLD BROWIE BOBS UP AGAIN. Ah, but food and tobacco do buck a man up and put heart into a fellow. No, the business isn't what it used to be—when I was with Belasco. The movies? Misfortune. Well, I must be getting on. An appointment with my agent. Perhaps a part in a picture—a "bit" not much, but ten a day is a lot to be sneezed at—not in a season like this. Hardly, so long; so glad to have seen you again. Good luck. A banknote? Well in case the "part" does the President's message. On his way. Pinch and toss with the years. Old age and the odds all against the player.

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Wilson Asks Sanction To U. S. Dairy Congress

President Wilson yesterday transmitted a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture favoring legislation that will give governmental sanction to the world's dairy congress which is contemplated to hold in the United States in 1922.

"I invite the attention of the Congress," said the President's message, "to the commercial and scientific value which the Secretary of Agriculture thinks would accrue to the important dairy industry of the United States by holding the proposed congress, and I ask for the matter the favorable consideration of the Congress."

"It will be observed that no appropriation is asked for at this time."

Asks \$2,000 to Care For District's Blind

An appropriation of \$2,000 to take care of increased expenses at the Columbia Polytechnic Institute for the Blind, at 1895 H street northwest, was asked of Congress yesterday by Senator Morris Sheppard, of Texas.

Senator Sheppard presented an amendment to the bill making appropriations for the expenses of the District government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922. The only reference made to the Committee on Appropriations.

many fluctuations, dominates German philosophy and has done more inwardly to form and strengthen the youth of Germany than anything else within the last twenty years.

Another thought may comfort American men who look restlessly after American women wedded to European titles: "A man of merit finds it harder to get married than does a man decorated with a name or a title. That is because the advantages of name and title are communicated. When a duke marries, he makes his wife a duchess, but a great man imparts to his wife neither his renown nor his wit."

Antidote to Murder. A last example is sadder in the world's great bitterness, not yet dispelled: "Human justice is often only vengeance instead of reparation. When one man kills another the body politic suffers a loss and human justice intervenes by killing the murderer, thus adding a new loss to that already inflicted on the state. If God intervened, He would raise up the dead man and change the murderer's heart. There would then be reparation and, consequently, absolute justice."

Not all these rapid-firing thoughts are of equal caliber, and their use as preliminaries to a dictionary is not obvious. They may stir the desire that more French authors, more French words, more French happy excerpts to which Rivarol and his great rival, Chamfort, lend themselves so easily. The French keep such writers alive in this way only. They called and considered themselves moralists first of all, and that is the reason why something of their journalism remains perennial—Stoddard Dewey in the New York Evening Post.

Open Court Letters to The Herald

Other Folks' Views
On Current Topics of Interest

BACKS UP STATEMENT OF "MOTORMAN"

To the Editor, The Washington Herald: Congratulations to you on printing the letter from "The Motorman" in regard to traffic as he observes it. He left two people from his list that I think should be included, judging from my own observation. One is a certain driver for Guile, the florist, who pays no attention to crossing rules.

Another class that should have been included in his list are the women drivers. I have watched them for a year, they pay no attention to traffic rules unless compelled to; give no sign of intentions of turning, and go on their merry way in their beautiful glass cages without being concerned apparently about anyone.

The traffic problem in this town does not seem to be solved until the pedestrian is made to conform to the law at least during the rush hours in the morning and in the afternoon, when the government departments turn loose thousands of people.

This is the only city in the country I know of where the pedestrian pays no attention whatever to the "Stop" and "Go" signs or the patrolman on the crossing. The patrolman will signal the automobile driver to come on, and the pedestrian will immediately start across the street, paying no attention to the policeman, who, of course, wants to get the automobiles out of the way.

Capt. Headley is doing a great work in marking the crossing places. Now let his men enforce the law rigidly for the pedestrian as he does for the automobile driver. In New York there are six men at the corner of Forty-second street and Fifth avenue. If you step out of the curb against the sign there, you are arrested. The traffic goes out and down Fifth avenue for one and one-half minutes, and is then changed to one minute across the avenue up and down Forty-second street.

As a result there is no congestion. If there were the commissioner of police would get some new men. RUSSELL T. EDWARDS.

Washington, Dec. 16.

Political Browsings

By Labert St. Clair.

Tom Taggart, who recently was snowed under for the Indiana Senatorship by Jim Watson, is declared by old-timers around Washington to have the best memory for names and faces of any man in public life.

One story current about Taggart is that a railroad engineer, who knew Taggart when he was a pie salesman at an Indianapolis lunch counter, went West and was gone more than twenty years, during which time he forgot Taggart. Returning to Indianapolis, he found Taggart a leading figure of the town so he went around to call on him. He sent word into Taggart merely that "a friend" wanted to see him.

"Why, hello, Jim, do you still like apple pie?" Taggart asked as his friend stepped through the doorway. "Maybe Taggart gets this habit of remembering names and faces from running a hotel. He can stand in the lobby of his Franch Lick place by the hour and recall names and faces, it is said."

Ray Baker, Director of the Mint, has more statistics at his tongue's end than most anyone in the Treasury Department. Give him a start on any kind of money statistics and he will fairly run away with himself.

The other day, when it was announced that the government would need \$4,000,000,000 to run its business during the coming year, some one breezed into Ray's office and asked him:

"Just how much is \$4,000,000,000 anyhow, Ray?"

Whereupon Ray wheeled around and answered, right out of hand:

"Oh, not a great deal. It requires 250 cubic feet of space to hold \$1,000,000 in silver. Multiply that by 4,000 and you will have something like 1,000,000 cubic feet of space that it would take for the \$4,000,000,000. Some warehouse, eh?"

"Now as to weight. A thousand dollars in silver weighs about fifty-nine pounds. Get out the old scratch pad and figure on \$4,000,000,000 in pounds and you will find that you have something like 236,000,000 pounds, or miss my guess. Just imagine, having that much weight in butterfly wings!"

"And now a word about the size of all that laid out, dollar after dollar, side against side, or end to end. It is silver dollar measures an inch and a half across. Which makes something like 6,000,000,000 inches of silver dollars. Divide it by twelve and you have 500,000,000 feet."

"And how much does that make in miles?" the demon pursuer asked.

"Say, Ray answered, 'do I have to do all this work myself? Divide by 5,280 and let me know the result.'"

The Hon. Quidiah Dobb is advocating a Federal law to compel saxophone players to practice in storm cellars.

The Christmas Confection. I sent a present to my love. And in the mail they smashed it! With indiscriminating shove They hustled and they bashed it! It reached my love as a mess. In form and substance fitted To baffle those who fain would guess At what had been transmitted.

The busy scribe threw it at. The next but one division; The stamp department stamped it flat With horrible precision. And when at length it reached my love's, By means of transit jerky, Some said it was assorted gloves. But others said 'twas turkey!

A little pulp, a plume or two, Thanks to the postal wrecker. They hazarded its nature true, And cooked it at a venture! By subsequent rejection They thought they'd saved the nation. That's why today I send my love A milliner's confection! La Touche Hancock in Cartoons Magazine.